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Russia eyes new power projects in Afghanistan

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MOSCOW - Russia is considering options for building new hydroelectric power stations in Afghanistan, President Dmitry Medvedev said on Friday.

Russian companies are currently modernizing Afghanistan's Naglu power plant and building electricity generating facilities in hard-to-access mountainous areas in the country, Medvedev told his visiting Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai.

"We are looking into the possibilities of Russia participating in building new hydroelectric power plants in other Afghan provinces," Medvedev said.

Bilateral trade between Russia and Afghanistan has quadrupled in the past few years, reaching \$500 million, he added.

"This is a good sign," Medvedev said. "We would like to see further development."